



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	ADS-MVK-2004-232
EVALUATOR:	Mr. Arel Simpson
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5996
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	regulatory@mvk02.usace.army.mil
DATE:	February 3, 2005
EXPIRATION DATE:	February 23, 2005

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. A water quality certification is required in accordance with statutory authority contained in the LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of the Clean Water Act. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has a copy of the application on file in their office in Baton Rouge and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality upon payment of cost of printing. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will make a final decision on the water quality certification pertaining to this application within 30 days after expiration of this notice.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which applies to structures or work in navigable waters of the United States and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:
Red River Water Commission
Post Office Box 776
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71458

Name of Agent:
Mr. K. Randal Smoak, P.E.
Cothren, Graff, Smoak
Engineering, Incorporated
6305 Westport Avenue
Shreveport, Louisiana 71129

Location of Work: Section 40, T10N-R7W, latitude 31° 50'41"N, longitude 93°05'51"W, within the Red River drainage basin, Natchitoches Parish, near Grand Ecore, Louisiana.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to conduct regulated activities associated with the construction of recreational facilities along portions of Bayou Pierre and the Red River.

The applicant is developing the recreation facilities in two phases. Phase I included the development of the boat ramp, floating dock, and parking lot. This phase required a 404 permit (No. LJ-200208670), encompassed approximately 24.1 acres, and has been completed.

Phase II would include the development of camp sites with roadways, recreational vehicle parking pads with utilities, gate house, operation and maintenance building, activity center, and playgrounds. This proposed phase encompasses approximately 38.6 acres above the ordinary high water (OHW) of Bayou Pierre and approximately 34.2 acres below the OHW at 103.5 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD).

The proposed construction activities would require mechanized land clearing and filling of approximately 3.42 acres of jurisdictional wetlands and approximately 0.11-acre of other waters of the U.S. within Bayou Pierre. The acreage within and surrounding the wetlands and other waters is pastureland.

Vegetation on the 3.42 acres of wetlands on the proposed project site consists of bald cypress, buttonbush, swamp marigold, smartweed, sweet pecan, Bermuda grass, alligator weed, barnyard grass, beak rush, rye grass, curly dock, persimmon, sensitive briar, and common greenbrier.

Approximately 15,000 cubic yards of fill material would be excavated on site and discharged within the wetlands. Most of the fill material would come from excavation of the boat ramp. The applicant proposes filling in the wetlands to reduce the mosquito population in the camping area.

A total of 3.42 acres of wetlands and 0.11-acre of other waters of the U.S. would be affected by the project.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in wetlands and other waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing requires a Department of the Army Permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: An initial review indicates that the proposed project would not affect any of the sites in Natchitoches Parish listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Copies of this notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, the Corps archaeologists, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to cultural resources that could result from this activity.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.


Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision

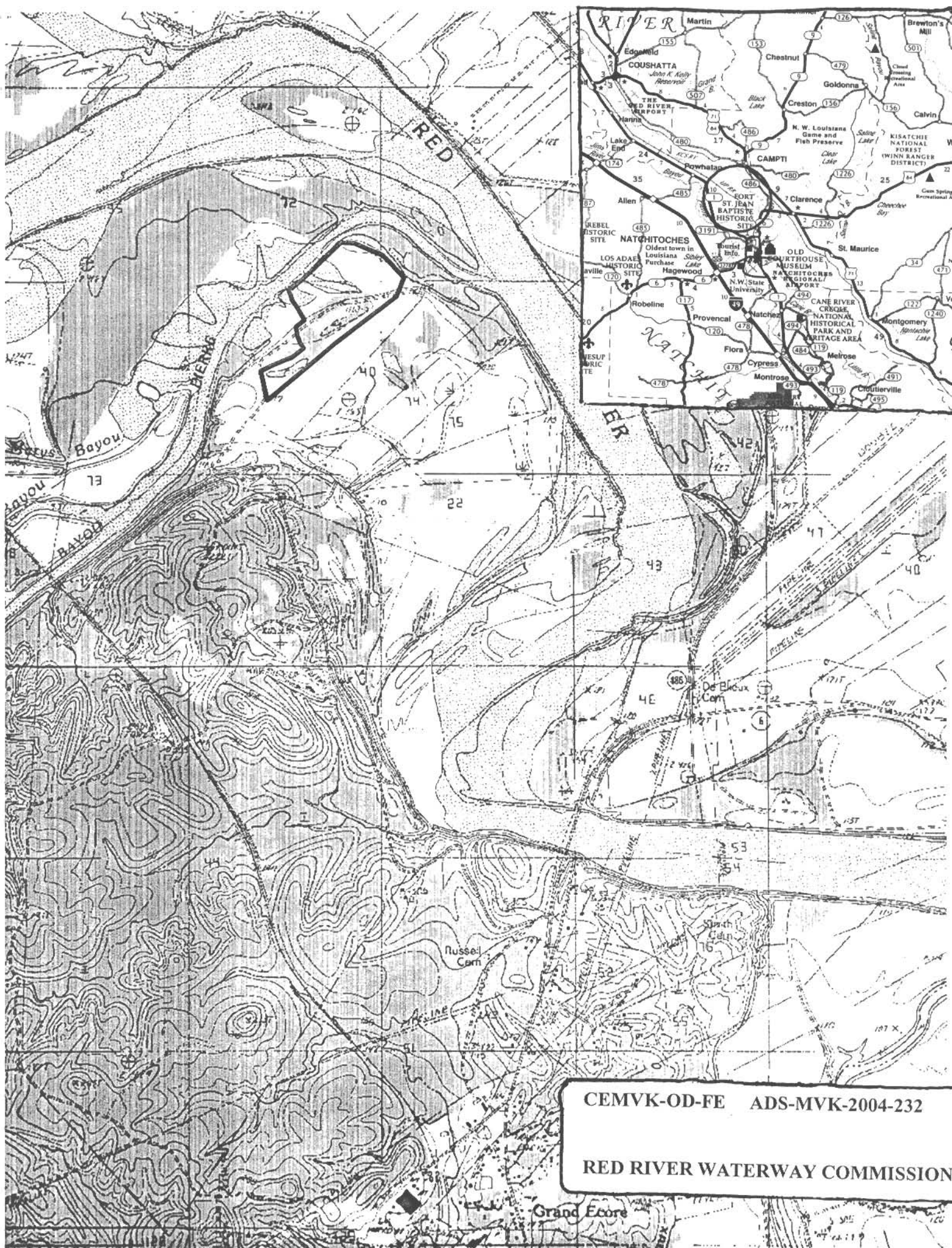
will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

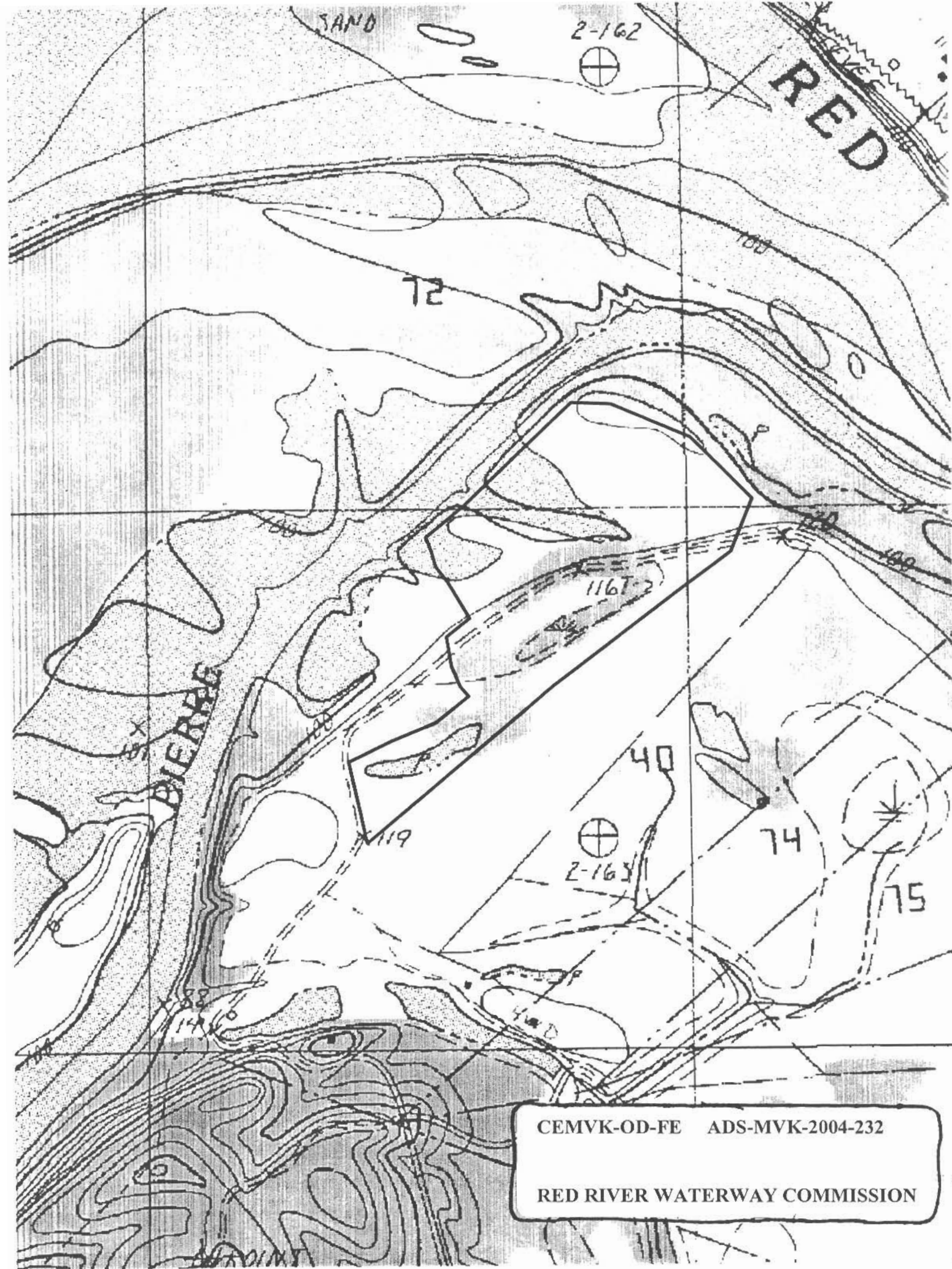
Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/main.asp>, or go directly to the Final Permit Actions web page at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/MonthlyNotice/pnmain.asp>.


W. Harold Lee
Chief, Evaluation Section



CEMVK-OD-FE ADS-MVK-2004-232

RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION



CEMVK-OD-FE ADS-MVK-2004-232

RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION

3-4-405

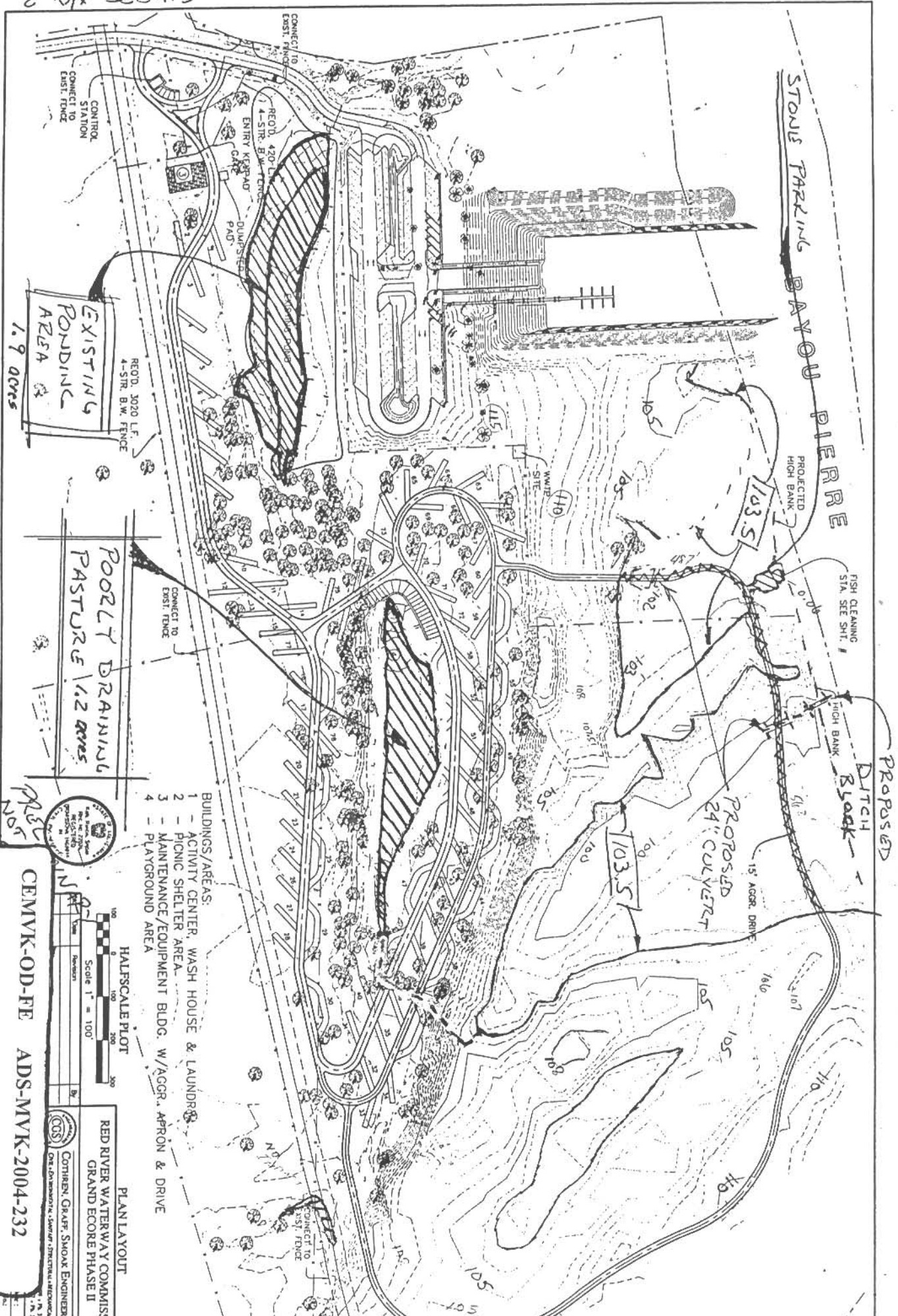
Red RIVER

FEBRUARY 9, 1993 BAYOU PIERCE 1:9,600



CEMVK-OD-FE ADS-MVK-2004-232

RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION



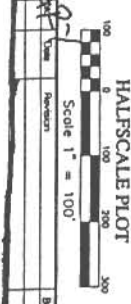
93° 0' 1.25" W
31° 50' 25.00" N

93° 5' 58.04" W
71° 50' 41.21" N

EXISTING
PONDING
AREA
1.9 acres

POOLY DRAINAGE
PASTURE 1.2 acres

- BUILDINGS/AREAS:
- 1 - ACTIVITY CENTER, WASH HOUSE & LAUNDRIES
 - 2 - PICNIC SHELTER AREA
 - 3 - MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT BLDG. W/ AGGR. APRON & DRIVE
 - 4 - PLAYGROUND AREA



PLAN LAYOUT
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISS
GRAND ECOVORE PHASE II
COTTRELL, GRAY, SMOAK ENGINEERS
ONE DEWEY DRIVE, TAMPA, FLORIDA 33604-1000

CEMYK-OD-FE ADS-MYK-2004-232
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION